MINUTES

of the

46th Conference

of the

Michigan District

of the

Evangelical Synod
of North America

HELD IN

EMANUEL
EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Manchester, Michigan

«« Rev. H. S. VON RAGUE, Pastor »»

June 6th to 9th, 1933

2007.030

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(Rev. H. S. von Rague, pastor)

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General Introduction

The Conference of the Michigan District opened with a solemn liturgical service on Tuesday evening, June 6th. Rev. Louis W. Goebel of Chicago, vice-president of the Evangelical Synod preached the sermon on "Pentecostal Power." Rev. Theo. Schmale served at the altar. Rev. H. S. von Rague cordially welcomed the members of the conference in the name of his congregation. Rev. Jacob Wulfmann, president of the district, recognized the gracious greetings in the name of the District and expressed the hope for a profitable and blessed conference.

The morning session on June 7th was opened with a devotion by Rev. F. Mayer, Ph.D., D.D., on "The Person of Christ the Miracle of History." Roll call showed that 52 pastors were present. Reading of the printed minutes was dispensed with. A report of the credentials committee was heard. A Moderator was elected in the person of Rev. Wulfmann with Rev. Eugene Spathelf as vice-moderator.

Reports of the District President, Vice-president and Treasurer were heard at this time. Newly entered ministers to the district as well as visitors to the conference were welcomed. Rev. Louis Goebel was introduced to the conference. He responded by bringing greetings from Dr. Locher, the president general of the denomination. Rev. H. P. Vieth, executive secretary of the Synod was also introduced and responded with a few words.

The report of the Home Mission committee was read by the chairman, Rev. C. C. Haag and a financial report was read by Rev. O. Laubengayer. A verbal report was given of the work of the Orphans' and Old People's Home by Rev. Fr. Lueckhoff, superintendent. He reported splendid achievement and certain blessing. At present the home has a total of 170 souls (employees included).

The work of the Deaconess Hospital was presented by the superintendent, Rev. Haag. The hospital continues to rank as one of the best with its Grade A rating.

Rev. H. H. Creager, pastor of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran church of Toledo addressed the conference in an unofficial presentation of the polity of the United Lutheran church. The credentials committee reported again.

During the afternoon of June 7th, conference guests were taken to view the beauty of the Irish Hills through the kindness of the host church.

Separate sessions for pastors and lay-delegates were held in the evening.

A communion service was held imediately following the devotionals, led by Dr. Mayer who spoke on "The Power of Service." Rev. Edwin F. Mayer and Rev. W. G. Mauch conducted the communion service.

Roll call of delegates was held. Credentials committee reported further official delegates to conference. A report of the committee on Traveling Expenses was heard and 3c a mile for automobile transportation and actual railway fare was set as a basis for equalization.

The most important matter to come before the conference was the vote on CHURCH UNION. After discussion a vote was taken which resulted in 49 votes in favor of union with the Reformed Church in U. S. and 36 opposed.

Afternoon session heard reports of excuses presented by credentials committee. Resolutions on report of President General, Religious Education, District President, Educational Institutions, Foreign Missions, Publications, Women's Union, Evangelical League, Executive Secretary of General Council, Pension and Relief were presented.

A Nominating Committee was appointed with Pastors: Schreiber, Hæussler, Irion and Hardt; Lay-delegates: Elmer Barnbrock, George H. Bartling and Miss Anna Krieger.

A service was held in the evening with Rev. Oscar Laubengayer delivering the sermon and Rev. E. Spathelf conducting the altar worship.

Session on Friday, June 9th began with a Memorial Service conducted by Rev. F. Schmidt. Roll call. A motion was passed to have nominating committee present names of 18 lay-delegates as candidates for General Conference delegates. These names were presented merely as a help and to facilitate the election. In the absence of Rev. Hæussler, Rev. Fr. Lueckhoff was appointed to the nominating committee.

Elections of officers took place and results are to be found elsewhere in this printing. Tellers were appointed as follows: Pastors Hafermehl, Eglinsdoerfer, C. Howe, and Delegates: Gideon (Fraser), Hardel (San Pierre), Schultz (Lansing).

Reports were heard on Synodical Treasurer, Insurance, Home Missions, Change in Constitution, Orphans' Home and Hospital.

Elections of all boards were held as well as the election of delegates to the General Conference.

Officers were installed in the impressive ceremony just preceding the close of the conference at 3:00 P. M.

Members of the Michigan District

A. Pastors

(Ann Arbor Conference)

Alber, W. H., 805 Mechanic St., Jackson, Mich.
Beecken, P., 111 W. Oliver St., Owosso, Mich.
Boehm, F., 1830 Silver Ave. (Sta. 19) Grand Rapids, Mich.
Bohn, Geo. 197 Pine Street, Muskegon, Mich.
Grabowski, P., 134 E. Summit, Chelsea, Mich.
Hardt, A. P. 319 W. Genesee St., Lansing, Mich.
Koch, W., 114 7th St., Grand Haven, Mich.
Mauch, W. G., Dexter, Mich.
Mayer, Dr. F., R. F. D., Manchester, Mich.
Papsdorf, O., Saline, Mich.
Peter, F., 614 Emmet St., Petoskey, Mich.
Roth, C. W., 966 Washtenaw Ave., Ypsilanti, Mich.
Rague, H. S. von, Manchester, Mich.
Schoen, A. A., 133 Ann Arbor St., Dexter, Mich.
Schmale, Theo., 432 S. Fourth Street, Ann Arbor, Mich.
Schreiber, F. R., 209 Glenhaven Ave., Grand Rapids, Mich.
Wittbracht, C. H., Saline, Mich.
Zumstein, H., R. F. D. 1, Lakewood Subdivision, Ann Arbor, Mich.

(Detroit Conference)

Eichhorn, J., 212 Maine St., Saginaw, Mich.
Breitenbach, W., 2669 Cortland Ave., Detroit, Mich. (Farmington)
Bollens, J., 12885 August Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Brenion, E., R. R. 1, Inkster, Mich.
Doellefeld, J., Main and Maple, Richmond, Mich.
Eglinsdoerfer, F. H., 4880 Lawndale Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Ernst, Dr. J., 3975 Concord, Detroit, Mich.
Fisher,* W. E., 515 Lafayette St., Royal Oak, Mich.
Frohne, A. G., 4840 Rohns Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Hæussler, A., 1170 Lakepointe Ave., Grosse Pointe, Mich.
Helmkamp, D., 111 S. Third St., Saginaw, Mich.
Hafermehl, G., Fraser, Mich.
Haag, C. C., 3245 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Horny, H., 2122 Russell St., Detroit, Mich.
Howe, W., 2324 Seventeenth St., Detroit, Mich.
Jud, Theo., 8863 Falcon Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Keller, O., 2209 Montclair Ave., Detroit.
Kleber, L., 5275 Balfour Rd., Detroit, Mich.

* Not a member of Synod.

Laubengayer, O., 15335 Gratiot (Maxwell Sta.), Detroit, Mich.
Lawrenz, E., 9301 W. Fort Street, Detroit, Mich.
Lueckhoff, Fr., 1852 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Mich.
Mallick, A., 1951 Military Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Mast, A., 8425 Whitaker Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Martin, A., 925 Harcourt Ave., Grosse Pointe Park, Mich.
Mayer, E. F., 2243 Seminole Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Roese, F. A., R. R. 2, Lenox, Michigan.
Schmidt, E., Warren, Mich.
Simon, W. F. A., 154 Chestnut Strret, Wyandotte, Mich.
Soell, E., 1013 Seventh, Port Huron, Mich.
Soell, J., Port Hope, Mich.
Spathelf, E., 983 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Mich.
Stanger, R. C. (Bethel Church), Detroit, Mich.
Totzke, H. E., 171 W. Boulevard, Marine City, Mich.
Uhrland, W., 336 Auburn Ave., Pontiac, Mich.
Witt, W. J., 4538 Livernois Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Wulfmann, J., 34 S. Wilson Blvd., Mt. Clemens, Mich.
Niedernhoefer, H.

(South Bend Conference)

Beutenmueller, A., 116 E. 7th St., Mishawaka, Ind.
Bloesch, H. P., Bremen, Indiana.
Eisen, Theo. 609 Sycamore St., Niles, Mich.
Frohne, Victor P. 1107 Lincoln Way, LaPorte, Ind.
Goffeney, W., 235 S. St. Peter St., South Bend, Ind.
Grabowski, W., Chesterton, Ind.
Haneberg, C., Baroda, Mich.
Hetzel, J., New Buffalo, Mich.
Hoefer, M., 417 W. LaSalle St., South Bend, Ind.
Howe, C. F., 1018 Elizabeth St., Lafayette, Ind.
Irion, P., 907 Franklin St., Michigan City, Ind.
Kling, L., Three Oaks, Mich.
Krickhahn, C., R. R. 2, Coloma, Mich.
Krueger, J., Wakarusa, Ind.
Kuhn, E. A., 615 Church St., St. Joseph, Mich.
Pobanz, P. R., R. R. 2, Medaryville, Ind.
Reichert, P. 300 Harrison St., Elkhart, Ind.
Salzgeber, L., R. R. 2, Andrews, Ind.
Schaible, J., Wanatah, Ind.
Schlinkmann, D., Urbana, Ind.
Schmidt, F. C., 812 Harrison St., St. Joseph, Mich.

B. Synodical Congregations and Delegates

(72 Congregations)

Adair, Mich., Evangelical—
Adrian, Mich., Emmanuel—J. E. Stange.
Albion, Mich., Salem—
Andrews, Ind., St. Paul—Otto Stensel

Bad Axe, Mich., St. John—
Bainbridge, Mich., St. Paul—
Baroda, Mich., Zion—Mr. Dinges, Sr.
Bippus, Ind., St. John—Chas. H. Rudig
Bourbon, Ind., St. Paul—
Bremen, Ind., First Evangelical—George Waltz
Chesterton, Ind., St. John—Miss Anna Krieger
Casco, Mich., St. James—Louis Rewalt
Clyde, Mich., St. Paul—
Detroit, Michigan:
- Bethany—Geo. Bartling
- Bethel—Frank Busch
- Christ—Roy Riggs
- Grace—Mrs. Stanley H. Hall
- Immanuel—
- Messiah—Mrs. Clara Meehan
- St. John—Albert Huebner
- St. Luke—Otto Tissing
- St. Mark—W. C. Westphal
- St. Matthew—Fred Gerlach
- St. Paul—
- St. Peter—
- Gratiot Ave., St. Peter—Ferdinand Luehman
- Gratiot Ave., Trinity—Herman Kreitsch
- Gratiot Ave., Zion—Theo. Jud

Royal Oak, Emmanuel—H. C. Kimberley
Elkhart, Ind., St. John—Walter Kollat
Farmington, Mich., Salem—L. F. Gilhmeister
Forestville, Mich., Unity—
Francesville, Ind., Salem
Medaryville, Ind., St. John —Rudolph Cords
Beavertwp., Ind., St. James
Francisco, Mich., St. John—
Fraser, Mich., Zion—Louis Gideon
Galien, Mich., St. Peter
Grand Haven, Mich., St. Paul
Grand Haven, Mich., St. Peter
Grand Rapids, Mich., St. John—Emil Bechtold
Jackson, Mich., St. John—R. J. Scheffel
LaFayette, Ind., St. John—Joseph Schaich
Lansing, Mich., St. Paul—Ed J. Schultz
LaPorte, Ind., St. Paul—Robert Fedder
Marine City, Mich., St. John—Clarence Zaetsch
Michigan City, Ind., St. John—Chas. W. Tonn
Mishawaka, Ind., St. Andrews
Mt. Clemens, Mich., Zion—Wm. C. Hacker
Muskegon, Mich., St. John—
New Buffalo, Mich., St. John—

Niles, Mich., St. John—Harry Thurston
Owosso, Mich., St. John—Carl Broker
Petoskey, Mich., Emmanuel
Pontiac, Mich., Bethel—H. G. Lusty
Port Huron, Mich., St. John—Chas. Schaeffer
Richmond, Mich., St. James—
Saginaw, Mich., Emanuel—
Saginaw, Mich., St. Mark—Henry Helmkamp
St. Joseph, Mich., St. Peter—Carl Hafer
San Pierre, Ind., St. Luke—Paul Hardel
South Bend, Ind., St. Peter—Elmer Barnbrock
Taylor Center, Mich., St. Paul—Mrs. Bessie Locke
Three Oaks, Mich., St. John—
Urbana, Ind., St. Peter—George Maurer
Wabash, Ind., St. Matthew—Fred Bahler
Wakarusa, Ind., Zion—
Wanatah, Ind., Salem—
Warren, Mich., St. Paul—Wm. Qualmann
Woodland, Ind., St. John—Irvin Annis
Wyandotte, Mich., St. John—
Plymouth, Ind., Federated Church—

C. Non-Synodical Churches

Ann Arbor, Mich., Bethlehem
Brutus, Mich., Zion
Chelsea, Mich., St. Paul
Dexter, Mich., St. Andrew
Freedom, Mich., Bethel
Freedom, Mich., St. John
Manchester, Mich., Emanuel
Pipestone, Mich., Zion
Port Hope, Mich., Reformed
St. Joseph, Mich., Zion
Saline, Mich., St. James
Saline, Mich., St. Paul
South Bend, Ind., Zion

D. Commissioned Workers

Mr. Otto Gubler, Central Y. M. C. A., Detroit, Michigan.

E. Institutions

Evangelical Deaconess Hospital, Detroit, Michigan.
German Protestant Home for Orphans and Old People, Detroit, Mich.

Report of the President

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Cor. 15: 58.

Dear Brethren:

Assembled in biennial conference, as we are, let us gather assurance and encouragement from these words of the great apostle. Great and grave problems confront the church, problems which demand the most earnest consideration and whole-hearted consecration of Christian people everywhere. It behooves us, therefore to heed the admonition of the apostle to be "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," and to take courage from the assurance that "our labor will not be in vain in the Lord."

Work done in the name and spirit of the Lord can not and will not be in vain. If we sow to the Spirit, and faint not, the spiritual harvest is assured. Our earthly schemes often fail, our plans miscarry, and all our toil goes for naught. But it is not so in spiritual husbandry. The harvest may, indeed, be delayed and our hearts may grow weary of waiting, but in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. The assurance is given us by God Himself, who is the Lord of the harvest. He has created the soil in which we sow, and he controls the wind and the rains, and is able to fulfill all his promises.

The certainty of results, the assurance that our sowing shall not be in vain, is one of the great incentives to Christian work, and ought to prove a source of inspiration and encouragement in our labors. The assurance is given to every worker. If it were given only to the talented, the great, the strong, we might well be discouraged, but it is given to every Christian who "abounds in the work of the Lord." No matter in what sphere of church work we may be asked to labor, whether it be as pastor in some seemingly unpromising field, as a teacher in the Sunday school, or just a humble disciple in some obscure corner of the Lord's vineyard, the promise is the same to every faithful worker who does his best for the Master. All can work, and there is something for all to do. Here is a promise we all may cherish while we work, a promise for us individually and collectively: "Therefore, my beloved brethren let us be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

In making my official report to the district I begin with

Changes in Pastorates

a. Within the District

W. G. Mauch from St. Andrew's, Dexter to St. John's, Freedom Twp.

A. A. Schoen from Salem, Farmington to St. Andrew's, Dexter.

H. Niedernhoefer from St. John's, Owosso to Salem, Farmington.

Theo. Eisen from Andrews-Bippus parish to St. John's, Niles.
W. Breitenbach from St. Mark's, Detroit to Salem, Farmington.

b. Transfers from Other Districts

P. Beecken from the South Illinois District.
W. Breitenbach from the North Illinois District.
L. Salzgeber from the Minnesota District.
R. C. Stanger from the North Illinois District.
W. E. Uhrland from the Indiana District.

c. Transferred to Other Districts

H. Arlt to the North Illinois District.
R. E. Weisser to the Minnesota District.
E. F. Wilking to the Wisconsin District.
G. W. Webbink to the North Illinois District.
W. F. Hetzel to the New York District.

In consequences of these changes in pastorates there have been the following:

Installations

Paul Reichert in St. John's, Elkhart, on June 7, 1931, by W. Goffeney.

W. E. Uhrland in Bethel, Pontiac, on Nov. 15, 1931.

W. G. Mauch in St. John's, Freedom Township, on March 14, 1932, by Theo. Schmale.

A. A. Schoen in St. Andrew's, Dexter, on May 1, 1932, by F. Lueckhoff.

Theo. Eisen in St. John's, Niles, on June 12, 1932, by G. W. Webbink.

H. Niedernhoefer in Salem, Farmington, on August 28, 1932, by O. Laubengayer.

P. Beecken in St. John's, Owosso, on November 27, 1932, by A. P. Hardt.

R. C. Stanger in Bethel, Detroit, on April 30, 1933, by Prof. C. G. Stanger.

L. Salzgeber in Andrews-Bippus parish, on April 30, 1933, by D. Schlinkmann.

W. Breitenbach in Salem, Farmington, on May 7, 1933, by A. Martin.

Retirements

The following pastors have retired from the active ministry and their names have been placed on the district list of the Emeriti: H. Zumstein, H. Niedernhoefer.

Ordinations

With the approval of the President General, Dr. C. W. Locher, the following graduates of Eden Theological Seminary were consecrated to the work of the Christian ministry by the sacred rite of ordination:

Theodore L. Trost on July 13, 1931, in Bethlehem Church, Ann

Arbor, by Rev. Theo. Schmale, assisted by Rev. A. A. Schoen and Rev F. G. Weber.

Clarence Beehler on June 12, 1932, in Zion Church, Wakarusa, by Rev. E. F. Lawrenz, assisted by Rev. J. F. Krueger and Rev. A. Beutenmueller.

In Memorian

Assembled in conference here today we can not refrain from giving a brief thought to those of our loved ones who once were with us and now are not.

During the past two years the grim reaper has entered many homes in our district and saddened many hearts. Many of those whom we have known and loved and with whom we have taken sweet counsel have been called to their eternal reward. In this connection it becomes my sad duty to record the deaths of two pastors, one commissioned worker and three widows of pastors.

Rev. F. G. Weber, pastor of St. John's Church in Freedom Township, died after a lingering illness on November 2, 1931.

Mr. Edward Berg, teacher and organist of St. John's Church in Michigan City, departed this life on September 22, 1931.

Rev. J. J. Bizer, retired, died at his late home in Benton Harbor, on May 31, 1933.

Mrs. Kathrine Schmale died at the home of her son, Rev. Theo. Schmale, in Ann Arbor, on June 27, 1932.

Mrs. Caroline Grunert, widow of a former pastor of our district passed away at the home of a daughter in St. Joseph on Dec. 14, 1931.

Mrs. M. Rahn, widow of Rev. Frederick Rahn, died at her home in Niles, Michigan, on January 11, 1932.

On April 15, 1933 the dark shadows of gloom and sadness were again cast over the parsonage in Ann Arbor when the angel of death called a promising young son of Rev. and Mrs. Theo. Schmale to the larger life.

To all mourning hearts in the district and throughout the Synod we extend our heartfelt sympathy, and commend them to Him who is too wise to err and too good to be unkind. In a special memorial service on Thursday morning we shall pay tribute to the memory of our departed loved ones.

Festive Occasions

Two churches of the district were privileged to observe the 75th anniversary of their respective organizations viz., St. John's Church, Michigan City, on October 11, 1931 and St. John's Church, Wakarusa, Indiana, on Oct. 4, 1931.

St. Paul's Church, Grand Haven celebrated its 50th anniversary on April 10, 1932.

St. Paul's Church, Detroit, observed its 60th anniversary on September 30, 1932.

St. Peter's Church, South Bend took note of its 70th anniversary in its special services an Sunday June 4, 1933.

On October 27, 1931, the 50th anniversary of the ordination of Rev. J. Soell offered the occasion for a special service in his honor in the Reformed Church of Port Hope, Michigan.

On January 6, 1932 the members of St. Peter's Church, Grand Haven and St. Paul's Church, Grand Haven Township, were assembled in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of their pastor, Rev. Wm. Koch.

On October 23, 1932, St. John's Church, Michigan City, observed the golden jubilee of the ordination of Rev. Paul Irion and the 25th anniversary of his pastorate in their midst.

St. Mark's Church, Detroit, dedicated a new church to the service of God on September 20, 1931.

First Evangelical of Richmond dedicated its new house of worship on December 20, 1931.

Bethlehem Church of Ann Arbor laid the cornerstone for a new parish hall on June 19, 1932 and dedicated the completed structure on February 12, 1933.

St. Peter's Church, East Detroit laid the cornerstone for a new church on December 11, 1932.

Miscellaneous Matters

The First Vice-President of the Synod, the Reverend Louis, W. Goebel, will attend our conference as the representative of the President General. We are glad to have him in our midst and bid him a hearty welcome. His messages to us will be messages of inspiration and encouragement.

For the first time during my present incumbency of this office I am able to report that the pulpits of all churches in the district desiring pastors have been supplied. There are no vacant pulpits in the district today. The pulpit of Emanuel Church, Petosky, will become vacant at an early date through the resignation of Rev. F. Peter. A very small group of Evangelical people constitute the membership of Emanuel Church, and the financial condition of the congregation is such that these people deem it inadvisable to call a pastor at this time. Some arrangement should be made by which they may have at least an occasional service.

For the same reason stated above St. Matthew's Church of Wabash, Indiana, refrained from calling a man to the pulpit vacated through the resignation of Rev. R. E. Weisser. A temporary arrangement has been effected by which it is possible for Rev. D. Schlinkmann of Urbana to supply the pulpit and minister to the people of this church. Both of these churches, St. Matthew's, Wabash, and Emanuel, Petosky, should put forth the most earnest endeavor to call permanent pastors to their respective pulpits at the earliest possible date.

There are two deserted church properties in the district at the present time, the one in Kingsley, Michigan, and the other in Armada, Michigan. Kingsley has not had a resident Evangelical pastor for a number of years, and the congregation has been disbanded. Trinity

Church of Armada has been merged with First Evangelical of Richmond. The ownership of the properties of these congregations should be determined in a legal way and, if the law decrees that they belong to the district, they should be disposed of at an early date.

Rev. C. J. Keppel, to whom a year's furlough had been granted on September 14, 1932, tendered his resignation as member of the Synod to your District Council on November 15, 1932. It was unanimously accepted by the council, and that action is now awaiting the approval of the Board of Directors of the Synod.

Soon after the resignation of Rev. W. F. Hetzel, Emanuel Church of Royal Oak called Rev. J. A. Keller to its pulpit. Through his own indiscretion his position very soon became untenable and his withdrawal from the field mandatory. The congregation elected and called Rev. W. E. Fisher, who is known to many of us through his participation in the Elmhurst-Eden Advance Campaign. Emanuel Church is highly elated over its choice and struggling valiantly to recover from the severe blow received under the previous pastorate. Rev. Fisher is not yet a member of the Synod and his installation has been deferred until such time when his call to the Royal Oak pulpit has the approval of the Board of Directors of the Synod.

It is a matter of regret that only forty-five churches of the district found it possible to participate in the Elmhurst-Eden Advance Campaign, subscribing a total of $78,949.50. The churches which for one reason or another were unable to lend their co-operation to this worthy project should not fail to make their contribution at the earliest possible date.

At the regular conference of the East and West Detroit Regions held conjointly in St. Paul's Church, Warren, a resolution was passed requesting that these two conferences be merged into one under the name Detroit Regional Conference. I am bringing this matter to the attention of the district for disposal at this conference.

Other communications have come to my desk on matters pertaining to the District and the Synod. They are attached to this report and are a part thereof.

To our genial hosts, Rev. and Mrs. von Rague and the good people of Emanuel Church, who have so willingly and cheerfully consented to house and entertain this conference we feel deeply indebted. The conference will not fail to voice its grateful appreciation at an opportune time.

It has again been my privilege and pleasure to serve as president of the Michigan District for a period of two years. I have endeavored to administer the affairs of the district to the best of my ability. I now relinquish the office, fully appreciative of the honor bestowed upon me and grateful for every co-operation accorded me.

Respectfully submitted,

Manchester, Michigan.
June 7, 1933.

J. Wulfmann,
President Michigan District.

Resolutions

The committee appointed to consider the report of the District President begs to submit the following resolutions:

1. With pleasure the Michigan District takes notice of the fine clear and comprehensive report presented by our esteemed president, and gives due expression to its gratitude for the faithful and conscientious work accomplished, and the sacrifice of time and effort made during the past two years.

Likewise do we appreciate the fine spirit of consideration and co-operation on the part of Zions Evangelical Church, Mt. Clemens, enabling our president to give sufficient time to the many duties of his office.

Lastly we rejoice with him in the admonition of the apostle Paul: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable. always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

2. The District welcomes to its field all newcomers and wishes "Godspeed" to those who have been transferred to other Districts.

3. The District extends its sympathy to the brethren and members of their families who have been bereaved during the last two years, in the district and throughout the Synod, praying that God comfort them in their sorrow.

4. The District rejoices with its congregations and extends congratulations to the various churches, organizations and individuals who have dedicated new churches or beautified their houses of worship and to all pastors and churches who have celebrated anniversaries.

5. To our guests and official Representatives, we extend our hearty welcome. May their sojourn with us mean a real blessing.

6. That our president has at all times been able to supply the pulpits of the vacancies is a true source of gratification to the District.

7. We urge that the temporary arrangement for the pulpit at Wabash, will soon terminate in the calling of a regular pastor.

8. That the properties at Kingsley, Armada and Highland Park, Michigan be acquired in a legal way at an early date and be disposed of at the discretion of the District Council.

9. The District fully concurs with its president and the Synodical officers in matters of Rev. Keller, Royal Oak, and Rev. Keppel, Detroit, and accepts their decision as final.

10. To the good people of Emanuel Evangelical Church and their leader, the Rev. Mr. S. von Ragué, the Michigan District rises to tender a hearty vote of thanks for the fine hospitality shown to us during these conference days, and to all those, whoes hospitality has contributed to the success of this conference.

11. In recognition of the faithful services of its officers, the Michigan District grants them with pleasure the usual gratification, including the janitor of this congregation.

12. That congregations and pastors bring forth their sincerest and loyal efforts in the hearty co-operation and support of our synodical obligations.

Budget Report for 1932

Name	Quota	Paid	Desig.	Total
Adair, Evangelical	$ 310.00	$ 100.17	$ 5.00	$ 105.17
Adrian, Immanuel	60.00	——	——	——
Albion, Salem	200.00	——	——	——
Ann Arbor, Bethlehem	2,288.00	2,100.00	427.00	2,527.00
Bad Axe, St. John	25.00	7.10	——	7.10
Bainbridge, St. Paul	408.00	39.74	——	39.74
Brutus, Zion	25.00	7.35	——	7.35
Baroda, Zion	600.00	200.00	23.42	223.42
Casco Twp., St. James	340.00	58.90	1.00	59.90
Chelsea, St. Paul	792.00	544.22	25.00	569.22
Detroit:				
Bethany	1,102.00	410.00	18.00	428.00
Bethel	1,800.00	475.00	682.34	1,157.34
Christ	1,134.00	300.00	——	300.00
G. P., Grace	220.00	150.00	22.00	172.00
Immanuel	2,205.00	220.50	12.00	232.50
Messiah	135.00	——	——	——
St. John	2,173.00	100.00	10.00	110.00
St. Luke	500.00	162.56	22.45	185.01
St. Mark	1,228.00	50.00	5.00	55.00
St. Matthew	2,488.00	1,180.00	25.00	1,205.00
St. Paul	1,071.00	250.00	——	250.00
St. Peter (Lawndale)	510.00	30.50	——	30.50
St. Peter (Gratiot)	255.00	——	——	——
Trinity	1,780.00	866.84	14.50	881.34
Zion	299.00	88.00	2.00	90.00
Dexter, St. Andrew	400.00	159.01	——	159.01
Farmington, Salem	378.00	29.99	3.00	32.99
Forestville, Unity	100.00	——	——	——
Francisco, St. John	160.00	83.27	——	83.27
Fraser, Zion	157.00	50.00	——	50.00
Freedom Twp., Bethel	787.00	362.41	——	362.41
Freedom Twp., St. John	200.00	38.20	2.25	40.45
Galien, St. Peter,	94.00	——	——	——
Grand Haven, St. Paul	315.00	140.99	——	140.99
Grand Haven Twp., St. Peter	121.00	30.86	——	30.86
Grand Rapids, St. John	1050.00	932.50	79.90	1012.40
Jackson, St. John	997.00	300.00	17.00	317.00
Lansing, St. Paul	346.00	295.00	——	295.00
Manchester, Emmanuel	1338.00	690.60	160.00	850.60
Marine City, St. John	393.00	144.61	——	144.61
Mount Clemens, Zion	1443.00	380.35	10.00	390.35

Name	Quota	Paid	Desig.	Total
Muskegon, St. John	749.00	25.00	164.00	189.60
New Buffalo St. John	252.00	7.50	——	7.50
Niles, St. John	850.00	149.00	——	149.00
Owosso, St. John	294.00	95.15	1.00	96.15
Petoskey, Immanuel	75.00	9.00	——	9.00
Pipestone Twp., Zion	158.00	17.52	2.00	19.52
Pontiac, Bethel	158.00	83.41	——	83.41
Port Hope, St. John	158.00	11.25	——	11.25
Port Huron, St. John	1313.00	600.00	5.00	605.00
Richmond, 1st Evang.	769.00	72.75	——	72.75
Royal Oak, Emanuel	672.00	145.00	3.50	148.50
Saginaw, Immanuel	500.00	101.00	——	101.00
Saginaw, St. Mark	510.00	129.68	——	129.68
St. Joseph, St. Peter	945.00	270.00	——	270.00
St. Joseph, Zion	834.00	256.58	4.00	260.58
Saline Twp., St. James	189.00	169.50	77.25	246.75
Saline, St. Paul	525.00	140.02	——	140.02
Taylor Center, St. Paul ...	453.00	300.00	——	300.00
Three Oaks, St. John	565.00	125.00	——	125.00
Warren, St. Paul	730.00	293.95	——	293.95
Wyandotte, St. John	945.00	100.00	——	100.00
Andrews, Ind., St. Paul	367.00	110.73	1.00	111.73
Bippus, Ind., St. John	288.00	178.50	——	178.50
Bourbon Twp., St. Paul ...	245.00	80.00	——	80.00
Bremen, Evang.	377.00	150.00	7.00	157.00
Chesterton, St. John	310.00	17.17	——	17.17
Elkhart, St. John	693.00	275.77	10.30	286.07
Francesville, Salem	100.00	37.86	——	37.86
Francesville, nr., St. James	185.00	76.12	——	76.12
Lafayette, St. John	346.00	37.22	10.00	47.22
La Porte, St. Paul	1086.00	335.00	——	335.00
Medaryville, St. John	220.00	111.89	——	111.89
Michigan City, St. John ..	2302.00	1887.00	20.00	1907.00
Mishawaka, St. Andrews ..	357.00	——	——	——
San Pierre, St. Luke	158.00	47.10	——	47.10
South Bend, St. Peter	1023.00	267.93	——	267.93
South Bend, Zion	1590.00	300.00	53.00	353.00
Urbana, St. Peter	395.00	206.82	4.10	210.92
Wabash, St. Matthew	510.00	325.50	——	325.50
Wanatah, Salem	900.00	300.00	3.00	303.00
Wakarusa Mad. Twp., Zion	630.00	182.69	8.35	191.04
Woodland, St. John	393.00	208.27	——	208.27
Plymouth, Federated	130.00	——	——	——
Orphan's Home	——	22.00	5.00	27.00
Special Gifts	——	——	327.75	327.75
	$54,734.00	$19,237.45	$2,273.71	$21,511.16

The district quota was $54,734. Total Budget payment amounted to $19,237.45, total designations to $2,273.71, a grand total of $21,511.16. Thus the district with this grand total reached a percentage of approximately 39⅖. Or, in other words, if the district had paid $33,223 more than the amount contributed, it would then have reached the full amount of the quota.

Five churches out of 83, ranking in the order named, Bethlehem Ann Arbor, St. Johns, Mich. City, St. Matthew, Detroit, Bethel, Detroit, and St. John's, Grand Rapids, contributed $7,808 or more than 36% of the entire amount. This is another example of concentrated wealth.

While many of the lesser amounts represent real sacrifices on the part of hard-hit members and of pastors who have remained unpaid for months, the fact remains, if we are to judge from the results, that many church members, perhaps the majority of them, failed to contribute a single dollar toward these benevolences. After allowing for the unprecedented hardship of 1932, the question still crowds itself forward: "Were things as bad as that?"

We are told to be thankful in all things. The church is thankful to God and to all loyal souls who helped to carry on in troublesome days. But the church also dare not cease from making appeals in this time of crisis.

Now that the depression is lifting, it is to be hoped that the giving power will be speedily revived in all of our churches.

Respectfully submitted,

E. H. Spathelf.

Report of District Treasurer

Income

Cash from Committee on equalization	$ 3.80
Traveling expenses:	
Emmanuel, Saginaw	7.00
St. John, Wyandotte	11.50
St. John, Detroit	11.00
Warren, Mich	5.50
Rev. Totzke	1.00
Rev. Hetzel	7.00
Rev. Bollens	4.00
Christ, Detroit	7.00
Salem, Farmington	6.38
St. Peter, Gratiot, Detroit	7.25
Rev. Peter, loan	40.00
St. Peters, Lawndale, Interest	24.00
St. Peters, Lawndale, Interest	24.00
St. Pauls, Chelsea, Dist. Mission	10.00
Rev. F. Peter, loan	40.00
Rev. H. P. Vieth, refund	.50
Refund General Council expense	21.86

St. Peters, Lawndale, interest		24.00
St. Peters, Lawndale, interest to Nov., 1932		24.00
Special assessment of $5 in 1931		242.82
Receipts		$522.61
1931 District Offering	$1,079.49	
1932 District Offering	338.28	
	$1,940.38	
Cash on hand, June 1., 1931	202.84	
Total	$2,143.22	
Disbursements	1,621.01	
	$ 522.21	
60% balance in bank	290.71	
Cash on hand, June 6, 1933	$ 231.50	

Assets

Note outstanding, St. Peters, Detroit		$1,200.00
Note outstanding, Zion, Detroit		1,000.00
		$2,200.00
60% balance in bank		290.71
Cash on hand		231.50
Total		$2,722.21

Disbursements

Rev. J. J. Braun, Trav. Ex.	$ 19.75
Traveling Expense: Marine City, Pastor	1.00
Wyandotte, Pastor	4.00
Messiah, Pastor	4.00
St. John's, Pastor	4.00
Fraser, Mich., Pastor	3.50
Fraser, Mich., Delegate	7.00
Emanuel, Saginaw, Delegate	7.00
St. John's, Detroit, Delegate	7.00
St. John's, Wyandotte, Delegate	7.00
Bethel, Pontiac, Delegate	5.50
St. Peter's, Gratiot, Delegate	7.00
Salem's, Farmington, Delegate	6.38
St. Paul's, Warren, Delegate	5.50
Rev. H. Bloesch, Bremen, Ind. Refund	6.00
Highland Pk., Taxes 1929-1930	415.65
Rev. Theo. Eisen, Gratification	50.00
Janitor, Trinity Church	10.00
Rev. A. A. Schoen Gratification	50.00

Rev. F. Peter, Loan	40.00
Rev. H. W. Dinkmeyer, Trav. Expense	10.00
Henry Ullrich, Printing Matter	17.25
City Treasurer, H. Park, Taxes 1931	130.80
Rev. Victor Frohne, Expense	12.35
Christ Church, Detroit, Trav. Expense	7.00
St. Peter's, Lawndale, Sp. Assmt.	5.00
St. Joseph, Zion, Sp. Assmt.	5.00
Detroit, Messiah, Sp. Assmt.	5.00
Saginaw, St. Mark's, Sp. Assmt.	5.00
Manchester, Emanuel, Sp. Assmt.	5.00
Rev. Victor Frohne, Sp. Assmt.	75.00
Refund, General Council Expense	21.86
St. Peter's, Lawndale, Interest to May 1932	24.00
Rev. Victor Frohne, Bal. from Sp. Assmt.	12.82
St. Peter's, Lawndale, Interest to Nov, 1932	24.00
	$ 522.61
1931 District Offering $1,079.49	$1,079.49
1932 District Offering 338.28	338.28
Deficit $ 741.21	
	$1,940.38
June 1, 1931 Cash on Hand	202.84
Total	$2,143.22
Disbursements	1,621.01
	$ 522.21
60 per cent Bal. in Bank	290.71
Cash on Hand	$ 231.50

REPORT JUNE, 6, 1933

By Treasurer, E. S. Schwartz

Notes	$2,200.00
60 Per cent Bal., First Nat. Bank	290.71
Cash on Hand	231.50
	$2,722.21

Disbursements

Rev. Vieth, Statistics	$ 100.00
Rev. Laubengayer, Mission Board	200.00
Rev. Victor Frohne, Stationery and Traveling Expense	13.86
Eden Pub. House, Conference Reports	157.43
Aug. von Boeslager, Flowers, Rev. Weber	10.00

Rev. J. W. Wulfman, Office Expense	16.15
Rev. E. H. Spathelf, Office Expense	6.25
Rev. F. Peter, Loan	40.00
Rev. O. Laubengayer, Mission Board	10.00
Rev. H. P. Vieth, General Council	43.75
Rev. J. Wulfman, Expenses, Office	32.75
Rev. H. S. von Rague, Manchester	5.00
Rev. H. P. Vieth, General Council	50.00
Home Mission, Trav. Expense, Alton, Ill.	28.90
Henry Ullrich, Letter Heads	5.55
Rev. Victor Frohne, Traveling Expense	14.74
Rev. E. H. Spathelf, Office Expense	2.70
Rev. Jacob Wulfmann, Office Expense	44.85
Check Tax	.20
E. Schwartz, Office Expense	1.20
	$1,621.01

Churches Who Had Paid No District Offering for 1932

1. Adair, Mich, Evang.
2. Adrian, Mich., Immanuel.
3. Albion, Mich., Salem.
5. Ann Arbor, Bethlehem.
7. Bainbridge.
9. Beaver Twp., Ind., St. Paul.
11. Bourbon, Ind., St. Paul.
12. Bremen, Ind., Evangelical.
13. Brutus, Mich., Zion.
16. Chesterton, Ind., St. John.

Detroit, Mich.—

18. Bethany.
19. Bethel.
20. Christ.
21. Emanuel.
25. St. Marks.
26. St. Matthew.
27. Messiah.
30. St. Peter, Gratiot.
32. Zion.
33. Dexter, Mich., St. Andrews.
34. Elkhart, Ind., St. John.
35. Farmington, Mich., Salem.
36. Forestville, Mich., Unity.
37. Francesville, Ind., Salem.
38. Francisco, Mich., St. John.
39. Fraser, Mich., Zion.
44. Grand Haven Twp., St. Peter.
46. Jackson, Mich., St. John.
47. Lafayette, Ind., St. John.
48. Lansing, Mich., St. Paul.
49. La Porte, Ind., St. Paul.
51. Macomb Twp., Mich., St. John.
53. Manchester, Mich., Emmanuel
54. Marine City, Mich., St. John.
55. Medaryville, Ind., St. John.
56. Michigan City., Ind., St. John.
57. Mishawaka, Ind., St. Andrews.
59. Muskegon, Mich., St. John.
60. New Buffalo, Mich., St. John.
63. Petoskey, Mich., Emmanuel.
64. Pipe Stone, Mich., Zion.
65. Pontiac, Mich., Bethel.
67. Port Huron, Mich., St. John.
68. Royal Oak, Mich., Emmanuel.
69. Saginaw, Mich., St. Marks.
70. Saginaw, Mich., Emmanuel.
71. Saline, Mich., St. Paul.
72. Saline Twp., Mich., St. James.
74. St. Joseph, Zion.
75. San Pierre, Ind., St. Luke.
77. South Bend, Ind., Zion.
82. Wanatah, Ind. Salem.
84. Woodland, Ind. St. John.
86. Plymouth, Ind., Federated.

Committee on Traveling Expenses

The following churches to be excused from conference and equalization expenses:

Emanuel, Petosky, Mich.; St. Peter's, East Detroit, Mich.; Emanuel, Saginaw, Mich.; St. Andrew's Mishawaka, Ind.; St. John's, Francisco, Mich.; Salem, Albion, Mich.; St. Paul's, Grand Haven, Mich.

The following to be excused from conference but share in expenses:

St. John's, Three Oaks, Mich.; St. John's, Muskegon, Mich.; First Ev., Richmond, Mich.; St. John's Wyandotte, Mich.; Emanuel, Detroit, Mich.; St. Paul's Detroit, Mich.

The following pastors be excused from the conference but share in equalization expenses:

Rev. H. Bloesch; Rev. W. F. Simon; Rev. F. A. Roese.

Report of the President of the Synod

1. In view of the fact that the present executives of our Synod have in the past few years carried the work forward in spite of most discouraging difficulties, we wish to express herewith our commendation and gratitude, and to assure them of our continued support.

2. While there has been marked improvement in the matter of correlating the local church program with that of synodical headquarters, we admonish our churches to put forth greater efforts in this matter so that the administrative work of the Synod will become thoroughly effective.

3. Realizing the desperate financial difficulties of many of our congregations, we extend to them a word of encouragement and plead with the more fortunate churches to do their very best to offset losses to the Synodical work caused by the helplessness of others.

4. The Michigan District wishes to go on record as favoring the Synodical rule of reporting all individual communicant members as members of the church, whether they are contributing regularly or not.

Resolutions on the Report of the Executive Secretary of the General Council

1. We the members of the Michigan District commend the Executive Secretary of the General Council and his co-workers, for the promotional work thus far accomplished, particularily the anual preparation of the Every Member Canvass, also the preparation and publication of the annual Lenten pamphlet, likewise the important matter of stewardship as brought to the Synod proper thru the channels of the Brotherhood, the Women's Union, and the summer schools.

2. We recommend to the General Conference the appointment of an advisory committee on visual education, also that this matter be consummated as early as our finances will permit.

3. We recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the proposed Ministerial Code of Ethics as contained in the Book of Annual Reports, Page 48-50.

The Committee on Foreign Missions Submits the Following Report

1. The Michigan District agrees with the Board of Foreign Missions that its work deserves the earnest consideration of the whole church, because its task is DIVINELY conceived and commissioned, and it adequately gives expression to the unselfishness and love of the CHRIST-CENTERED human personality.

2. The Michigan District congratulates the Board of Foreign Missions upon its efficient prosecution of its work in spite of serious curtailment of funds, and urges all churches to be serious in raising the budget and furthermore to be generous with special designations.

3. The Michigan District thanks the Women's Union for the ingathering of funds for the furtherance of missionary enterprises.

4. The Michigan District congratulates the Evangelical society of Medical Missions upon its fine work in promoting interest in Medical Missions at home and in rendering helpful service in India and Honduras.

5. In the rather delicate situation of social and political unrest in which our missionaries find themselves in India and Honduras we wish them divine wisdom and Christian tactfulness in dealing with these acute problems.

6. We trust that our missionaries in India will so guide the independence movement of our native Indian churches that it will result in virile churches.

7. In the midst of the sectarian disturbances in our Honduranian Churches we urge our Missionaries to continue to proclaim the whole truth of the gospel assured that in the end it will triumph over all sectarian efforts and selfish propaganda.

8. The Michigan District assures all our Missionaries of its heartfelt appreciation for service rendered, hopes that those in broken health will be restored for service, deplores that Rev. and Mrs. Twente, Rev. and Mrs. Wahl, and Rev. and Mrs. Konrad on account of ill-health cannot return to active service in foreign fields and wishes them God's blessing in their new fields of labor.

Report of Committee on Religious Education, Christianity and Social Problems, Evangelism

I. Religious Education

1. We congratulate the Board of Religious Education on the successful launching of the new Evangelical lesson series: "Lessons for Christian Living," and we commend them to the schools of our District.

2. We anticipate with interest the appearance of the handbook for confirmation instruction which is to be published in the near future.

3. We commend the work of our Evangelical Leadership Training Schools, and urge our people to make full use of them in order to be the better equipped for the work at home.

4. We are happy to note that a travelogue of the 1932 E. L. T. S. has been filmed and urge that this film be made available to all churches at the least possible cost. We urge, too, that the District Religious Education Committee give their best efforts to see that this film be shown in the churches of our district.

5. We urge that wherever local conditions make it possible, Daily Vacation Bible Schools be conducted. We look with interest to the interdenominational adventure inherent in this work.

II. Commission on Christianity and Social Problems

1. We urge that regardless of present circumstances this commission continuue to function and petition the general conference to make adequate provision for continuation of this work.

2. In view of the collapse of the present economic order, we are convinced that an economic system which places private profit and property values over human values is unchristian in character. We therefore urge that we keep constantly before our people the need of guiding the emerging order along Christian lines.

3. We urge that the Synod's declaration on war, as adopted in 1925, be embodied in the By-Laws of the Synod.

4. We urge that our people make a thorough study of the actual causes of war.

5. We deplore the fact that the liquor issue has blinded many people to the more pressing need of our poverty-stricken and underprivileged population. Since both the 18th amendment and license fail to cope with the liquor question, we urge an energetic educational campaign which will develop genuinely Christian temperance.

III. Evangelism

1. We commend the position of the committee on Evangelism, the essence of which is given in the words of E. Stanley Jones: "The goal of evangelism is the production of Christ-like character and life in individuals and in society; thru moral and spiritual conversion; by faith in and fellowship with God through Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord and Saviour; through sharing of a brotherhood life transcending all distinctions in the new divine society, the Kingdom of God on earth; and through becoming witnesses, in word and life by the power of the Holy Spirit, of this new life to others."

General Board of Publications

We appreciate and express our gratitude to the General Board of Publications for their efficient and wise conduct in matters pertaining to our Synodical publications during the year just past.

In view of the probable immediate consummation of the merger of the Reformed Church and the Evangelical Synod, and a prospect of a consolidation of the publications of the two churches resulting from this merger, we propose that all changes in regard to the periodicals be left to the dicretion of the Board of Publications.

Report of the Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Association for the Michigan District for the Years 1931-1932

Annual Statement for 1931

To the members:

Series A—prior	93	$739.810.00	
1931	12	124,785.00	
	105		$864.595.00
Series B—prior	48	$ 90,305.00	
1931	10	$ 17,830.00	
			$108,135.00
	163		$972,730.00

Total Income: $2,438.45.

Losses: (By Fire)

St. Matthew Ev. Church	$2,720,22	
First Ev. Church, Richmond	8,450.00	
First Ev. Church, Richmond	5,000.00	
		$16,170.22

By Storm

Zions Ev. Church, Marlette, Mich.	$ 20.00	
St. Pauls, Warren, Mich.	50.00	
		$ 70.00
		$16,240.22

Annual Statement, January 1, 1932 to December 31, 1932

Policies Series A—prior	81	$645,855.00	
1932	28	168,835.00	
	109		$814,690.00
Series B—prior	47	$ 89,330.00	
1932	8	13,975.00	
	55		$103,305.00
Total	164		$917.995.00

Financial Statement

Entrance Fee Series A	$ 168.40	
Series B.	14.00	$ 182.40

Assessments

Subsequent Series A	$ 44.25	
Subsequent Series B	.70	$ 44.95
Assessment Series A	$1,990.25	
Assessment Series B	157.85	$2,148.10
To General Secretary—Total		$2,375.45

Losses by *Fire:*

Bethany Ev. Church, Detroit, Mich. $83.75

Lightning:

Trinity Ev. Church, Detroit, Mich. 48.83

Storm:

St. Johns Ev. Church, Francesville, Indiana .. 8.00

$140.58

REMARKS:

It has been requested that all members of the District should study the important Report of the Secretary General. By giving this report due consideration, they will be better informed when making resolutions for the coming General Conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Leonard Kleber, Inspector.

Evangelical League

The District is gratified to note the completion of the Student chapel at Columbia, Missouri and trusts that the property will be turned over to the Synod debt free and recognizes the generous support given by the young people groups throughout the denomination. The district encourages the plans to provide for special work among larger Evangelical groups in universities and colleges that may be within the confines of the District.

Brotherhood

The District approves the recommendations of the Evangelical Brotherhood as listed in their report with the exception of No. 5 on page 186.

Women's Union

The District appreciates the splendid support given by the Union towards special synodical projects and encourages the brotherhood to do likewise.

The District approves the recommendations suggested by the Women's Union in their annual report.

The District thanks the general and district boards, executives, secretaries and officers of these various organizations for endeavors made and splendid work done.

Women's District Union

We are very happy to know that the District Women's convention held at Mt. Clemens was a wonderful success and we are looking forward to having all the pastors of the Michigan District support the fall convention at Port Huron, September 21 and 22 by urging their women's organizations to be represented. We urge the pastors of those churches whose women's organizations are not yet federated to plan group meetings for the purpose of federating. We call attention to the fact that the Women's Union is an organic part of the Synod and should be supported.

Orphan Home and Deaconess Hospital

Orphans' Home

1. Realizing the present economic condition and the corresponding difficulties confronting the management of charitable institutions generally, the Michigan District is indeed grateful to the Almighty God for his blessing upon our Orphans' and Old People's Home in the past two years.

2. The Michigan District is grateful to all congregations sending produce to the institution and recommends that all congregations, through one or more of its organizations remember the institution financially.

Deaconess Hospital

1. Inasmuch as our Deaconess Hospital is a charitable institution, and due to the present economic condition is called upon to do considerable more charitable work, therefore be it resolved that all churches be encouraged to continue, and if possible, increase their support.

2. Resolved, that both pastors and delegates of this conference call the attention of their respective churches to the Hospital Association and encourage memberships.

3. Resolved that we assure the superintendents and the Boards of the charitable institutions of the Michigan District of our moral support.

Committee on Pension and Relief and Annuity Department

1. The Michigan District appreciates the efficient administration of the Pension and Relief Funds by the General Board, and requests the General Conference not to reduce the allotment to this fund in an eventual re-apportioning of the Synodical budget.

2. The District wholeheartedly endorses the Annuity plan and urges pastors and lay leaders to acquaint their congregations with the advantages of supporting kingdom work by this method.

Committee on Educational Institutions

herewith submits the following resolutions:

1. The Michigan District realizes the very important and responsible positions occupied by the presidents of our educational institutions and prays God's guidance for them during these days of re-adjustments.

2. We regret that circumstances did not permit the continuation of Oakwood as an institution. We believe, however, that some provisions could be made at Elmhurst so that those seeking the education which Oakwood offered may still attend our own institution.

3. We note with appreciation the brief report of the Board of Trustees of Elmhurst College.

4. We re-emphasize the importance of Elmhurst College as a desirable institution to secure a well-balanced education for our young

men and women. We urge greater individual interest and co-operation in making the advantages of Elmhurst known among our young people seeking an education.

5. While we share the dreams with the Board of a leading theological school which will find a place of its own among the leading theological schools of the country, nevertheless we must insist that its Evangelical character shall always be maintained.

6. We believe that the establishment of a department of Field Work for students at Eden is very essential.

7. The Michigan District recognizes with great satisfaction the report relative to the Elmhurst-Eden Advance. We look forward to the successful completion of this campaign through timely payments of individual pledges.

Committee on Synodical and District Treasurers, Insurance, Endowments and Trusts

1. The Michigan District appreciates the efforts of the Synodical Treasurer, Mr. F. A. Keck, for his efforts to induce the congregations to raise and send regularly their quota, and hopes that all churches will meet their budget obligations to the full extent of their abilities.

2. The Michigan District rejoices in the success of the Elmhurst-Eden Endowment Fund Campaign, and lauds those congregations which participated.

3. The books of the District Treasurer, Mr. E. Schwartz, have been audited and found correct, and the District releases its treasurer from his obligations of the past two years and voices its appreciation for his faithful service.

4. The books of the Director of Insurance, Rev. L. Kleber, have been audited and found correct, and the District thanks him for his service.

(a) The Michigan District suggests to the officers of the Synodical Insurance that they devise some plan making part or time payments of premiums possible.

Committee on Church Union

In view of the trend of modern church life it behooves us, as a denomination whose uniqueness has always been that of a spirit of unity, that we as a denomination, to be consistent with our historical-doctrinal background and traditions, should offer the hand of fellowship and Christian union to another Christian denomination which shares our spiritual and historical background and which offers to unite with us.

And since we have found such kinship in the Reformed Church In The United States, the different *classes* of which have already practically unanimously voted in favor of union with our Evangelical Synod of North America.

Be it therefore resolved: That the Michigan District of the Evan-

gelical Synod of North America go on record as favoring this proposed union, invoking God's help and blessing for its eventual happy consummation.

Committee on Adjustments

Changes in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Synod proposed by the Committee on Adjustments as submitted to the District on pages 51 to 59 in the Annual Report to the Districts.

Your committee recommends to you the adoption of the following resolutions.

1. The Michigan District respectfully petitions the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of N. A. to amend the Constitution and By-Laws of the Synod as recommended by the Committee on Adjustments of the Constitution and By-Laws on page 55 ff. of the Annual Reports but takes exception to the following amendment in section 8, paragraph 2 as unfair and contrary to the constitutional rights of pastors and congregations as expressed in Article II, section 2 of the By-Laws. The District votes for the retention of the paragraph in its present form.

2. The Michigan District votes for the retention of paragraph 3 in Section 11 and against the suggestion to strike out the paragraph.

3. The Michigan District questions the wisdom of this paragraph added to Section 115 (Page 53) believing it to be curtailing the rights of the respective District Council.

4. Michigan District recommends that Paragraph 4 in Section 147 be left as it reads now.

Section 169—Paragraph 2: In the second line after the word "nominated" change to read:

"by the board of directors in conjunction with the board of religious education and the board of publications and elected by the general council.

Section 169—Paragraph 3: Second sentence, change to read:

"The salaries of all editors shall be fixed by the Board of Publications, subject to approval by the general council, and paid"—then finish as now.

Article IX

Section 172—Paragraph 2: In the second line after the word editors, add:

"in conjunction with the Board of Directors and the General Board of Publication.

Paragraph 3: In the second line strike out "and editors."

We, the members of the Michigan District, recommend that Section 37 of the By-Laws under Article 7, Nomination and Elections, Page 19, reading, " . . . . shall nominate not less than two or more than three candidates for each elective office" be changed to read: " . . . shall nominate one candidate for each elective office. Further nominations may be made from the floor of the conference."

(It is very important that the Nomination Committee, after agreeing upon a candidate, must interview the person to be nominated, secure his consent and willingness to serve if elected, before presenting the name to the conference.)

This change to apply also to district conference elections, confer Sections 76 and 77, and likewise apply to section 109 for regional conference elections, adding to the latter section the following line: "further nominations may be made from the floor of the conference."

Home Mission Report

(Condensed)

In submitting this biennial report of the Home Mission Activities in our Michigan District, I need hardly remind you of the unusual and abnormal economic conditions prevailing during the last two years. These conditions have naturally been felt by every congregation, but most keenly by our Mission Churches.

The reports will show that none of them has made any outstanding progress as far as numbers are concerned. But is it fair to judge the efficiency and success of a pastor *only* by the number of new members he is annually adding to his congregation and by the money he is able to raise for the upkeep of the church and the liquidating of church debts? Of course, if a minister is convinced that he has a vital message, a message deserving to be heard, he will not be satisfied in proclaiming this message to empty pews, he will do his utmost to go out and induce people to come in and listen to him. The method of how this can be most successfully accomplished in his special field should be left to the sane judgment of the minister. Some of our mission workers have been severely criticized for employing certain methods in the endeavor to bring the gospel. I looked into the matter and found that most of this criticism was uncalled for.

One thing I must mention, and I am glad to do it, and that is that as far as I know none of our Mission churches uses questionable means in raising money for his church. This is more than some of our old established churches can boast of.

But let us now see what these various Mission-workers have to report of their individual congregations.

1.

Zion Evangelical Church, Fraser, Michigan, Rev. Hafermehl, pastor.

This church was organized in 1896, not as a mission church. A few years ago the old frame building was destroyed by fire. A new and modernly equipped brick building took its place. The value of the church property is $23,000. The amount of indebtedness is $8,000. Individual church membership of 70, Sunday school of 95, Young People of 45 and Women's Union of 32.

2.

Zion Evangelical Church, Detroit, Rev. A. Mast, pastor.

This church was organized in 1931 by Rev. Enders. The present

pastor took charge of the mission in 1929. Total value of church property is $25,000. Present indebtedness is $6,200. Church membership 113, Sunday school 110 children. Women's Union has a membership of 25, Junior League 22, 17 children confirmed in two years. Present confirmation class numbers 21. Summer school is held every year. Zion is a growing church. We believe that Zion, as soon as normal economic conditions are established, will not take long to become a self-supporting church.

3.

Grace Evangelical Church, Grosse Pointe Park, Rev. A. Haeussler, pastor.

This church was organized in 1924. The present minister took charge of it in 1926. He says in his report: The city church that attracts the wide-awake and successful man of affairs must be properly located. Next to the importance of a proper location should be emphasized the advantages of convenient, adequate and attractive houses of worship. Grace church is located on one of the best-known "gold-coasts" in this country. Our three lots, measuring 113 by 110 feet, required an investment of $25,000. It was learned in the last survey, that over two hundred families of the community have no church affiliation. It can hardly be said that the Mission does not have the proper location. On the other hand the people of the community are repelled, rather than attracted by the small frame chapel which was erected as a temporary structure in the Fall of 1925. According to the terms of the building permit, this structure was to stand only five years. Because of the depression the village authorities have been lenient. Laboring under such a handicap it is noteworthy and gratifying that we have nevertheless made steady progress. The great majority of our people have no Evangelical background and many of our very best workers belong in this category.

In 1926—58 individual members. 1932—116
In 1927—80 families connected. 1932—134
In 1927—195 souls. 1932—434.
In 1926—84 Sunday school. 1932—136

The present pastor has made almost 5,000 calls since September, 1926. Total number of children confirmed, 43. The property represents a total investment of $29,500 of which the principal has been reduced to $15,808.80 which remains as a debt.

The last District conference authorized a special campaign for a much-needed addition. A total of $1400 was collected. Unfortunately however, due to the bank crashes, only $221.10 is at present available. At present the village will allow no addition to the temporary building now standing. We are thinking of building a basement under the present building. The Mission has remitted a total of $1410.97 for benevolence budget.

4.

Messiah Evangelical Church, Detroit, Rev. J. Bollens, pastor.

Messiah church looks neat and nice and inviting, outside and

inside, and the grounds are beautified by shrubs, flowers and trees. The total value of the property is $25,000 with an indebtedness of $13,000.

	1931	1932
Individual members	72	74
Members gained	18	7
Members lost	21	5

Fourteen members resigned because the congregation refused to conform to their wishes—7 members moved out of the city to find work.

Sunday school	137	154
Women's Union	21	25
Brotherhood	12	15
Young People	16	11
Pastoral calls	144	256

Approximately 300 meetings were held at the church. Twelve forum hours were held. Seven new members were received since 1933. The congregation, being in a factory neighborhood, the constituency is made up of working men. Welfare work has been carried on with poor relief, hospitalization for 2 people, legal aid etc. All funds for the church are raised by voluntary giving.

5.

Bethel Evangelical Church, Pontiac, Mich. Rev. Uhrland, pastor.

Rev. Uhrland, who came to us from Cincinnati about one and a half years ago is trying hard to put life into this almost defunct body. The pastor published "The Pontiac Pointer" which is not only a pointer for the people of his church but also for the mission board. Rev. Uhrland writes: While unable thus to meet our obligations financially, our work was never at a standstill. The attendance at our services has steadily increased from an average of 35 to 55 and on many a Sunday we have 70 to 80 present. On Easter we had 123.

Sunday school enrollment has jumped to 95, brotherhood 29, Union 18, League 18. We wish to call your attention to our need for more space. Our plan is to wreck and tear down the old building at the corner of our property. We can use all the lumber from this building to help build the addition to the church. Our men are willing to give labor and time but we realize it will require some financial aid from the mission board to carry out this program.

Do not forget, we need your prayers, we need your interest and we need your money to carry on the work successfully.

Respectfully submitted, *C. C. Haag*, Chairman,
Oscar C. Laubengayer, Secretary and Treasurer.

Report of District Mission Board Treasurer

For the Biennial Conference Period, June, 1931, to June, 1933

DISBURSEMENT

G. Hafermehl, Salary, Balance 1931	$116.67
A. Haeussler, Salary, Balance 1931	58.34
J. Bollens, Salary, Balance, 1931	58.34

Advance to A Kuehn	125.00	
Max Colter Co., Fencing and boarding of Salem H. P.	34.00	
Traveling Ex. in connection with Grace Annex Fund Raising Campaign	31.09	
L. Kleber, Ins. Salem H. P.	2.40	
Fed. Check Tax	.08	
Sec. Bureau Expenses, two years	4.00	
Total Disbursements		$429.92

Receipts

Cash Balance, June 1st, 1931	$ 26.24	
Part of one third allowance of Dist. Conf. Collection	200.00	
Refund by Rev. A. Kuehn	125.00	
Rev. C. C. Haag, Fencing and Boarding up of Salem H. P.	34.00	
Mich. Dist., Evang. Y. P. Federation, Doris Reece, Treas.	85.00	
		$470.24

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR GRACE MISSION ANNEX

Evang. Day Service Collection, Creamery Park, Mt. Clemens	$ 46.62	
Zion's Home Missions Society, Mt. Clemens	25.00	
St. Paul's, Chelsea	35.00	
St. John's S. S., Port Huron	50.00	
Reformed, Port Hope	7.18	
Emanuel, Royal Oak	2.50	
St. John's L. A. S., Michigan City	25.00	
Emanuel, Manchester	35.00	
St. Paul's, Detroit	50.00	
Bethany Women's Union, Detroit	57.43	
St. Paul's, Warren	20.50	
St. Paul's Evang. Mission Society, Laporte	20.00	
Zions Women's Union, Wakarusa	5.00	
St. Andrew's, Dexter	25.00	
St. Luke's, San Pierre	10.00	
St. Luke's Mission Society, San Pierre	15.00	
Salem, Wanatah	21.15	
St. James, Casco Tp.	17.75	
St. John's, Woodland	10.00	
St. Paul's, Lansing	13.52	
Mich. Dist., Evang. Women's Federation	175.00	
Bethel, Freedom, Mich.	22.00	
Total for Grace Annex		$ 688.65

Grand Total Receipts	$1,158.89
Disbursements	429.92
Cash Balance, June 6, 1933	$ 728.97

1932 City Taxes on Salem H. P., unpaid $110.00
1932 C. Taxes on Salem H. P., unpaid 35.94

Respectfully submitted,
Oscar C. Laubengayer, Treasurer.

Amounts Remitted Directly to Grace Mission, June 1, 1933, to June 1, 1933

June 1, 1931, Sunday School of First Ev. Church, Houston Tex.	$ 50.00
June 1, 1931, League of St. Peter's, (West Side), Detroit	36.70
April 11, 1932, Ev. Women's Union, Michigan District	150.00
June 6, 1932, Dorcas Society, St. Peter's Church, Muskegon	5.00
Aug. 7, 1932, St. Paul's Church, Taylor Center	12.25
Sept. 11, 1932, Ladies' Aid Society, St. John's Church, Detroit ..	50.00
Sept. 18, 1932, Mrs. Jos. Altz, St. John's Church, Detroit	5.00
Sept. 18, 1932, Willing Workers, St. John's Church, Detroit	15.00
Oct. 2, 1932, Bethlehem Church, Ann Arbor	100.00
Nov. 6, 1932, Evang. Women's Federation	50.00
March 26, 1933, Rev. J. J. Braun, St. Louis, designation from St. Peter's Church, Muskegon	10.00
Total for the two years	$483.95

Committee on Home Missions

1. We believe with the Central Board for Home Missions that the present time should be utilized particularly to awaken a more challenging sense of missionary obligation in our Synod, so that expansion work may be undertaken when we return to more normal conditions.

2. We recognize the fact that the purpose of Home Mission work is not only to build the denomination outwardly and to increase its numbers, but to mould character and to ground and establish people in a firmness of faith that will make them true citizens of the Kingdom of God.

3. We realize that our District Home Mission workers have been greatly handicapped in their work during the last two years and therefore we commend their faithful and diligent efforts.

4. The Michigan District urges all its congregations to give their loyal support to our Home Mission work, particularly as it applies to Grosse Pointe Park and Pontiac.

5. We suggest that the Highland Park church property be retained for the present and not listed for sale until its value has increased.

Special Resolutions

The Michigan District asks that a plan of registration and equalization of traveling expenses be worked out by the council, embodying the plan suggested by the Synod and adopted by other districts.

The Michigan District respectfully petitions the General Conference not change its present boundaries nor to transfer member churches of the said district.

The Michigan District favors the printing of one volume for all district reports in place of separate printings for each.

Motion was carried to allow secretary to condense lengthy reports for printed minutes.

Motion was carried to elect only two pastors as alternates to General Conference.

The following resolution, presented by the lay-delegates, was accepted: "The Delegates from each church are to acquaint the people of their own congregations with the expenditures of the Synod and are to select a speaker to do this, other than the pastor."

Elections and Appointments

District President, Rev. Jacob Wulfmann; District Vice-President, Rev. Eugene Spathelf; District Secretary, Rev. Victor P. Frohne; District Treasurer, Mr. Emil Schwartz, 5634 W. Fort St., Detroit, Mich.

District Council—Fred Gerlach, expires 1935, St. Matthew, Detroit; Rev. Theo. Schmale, expires 1937; Wm. C. Hacker, expires 1939, Mt. Clemens.

General Council—Chas W. Tonn, Michigan City; J. Wulfmann.

Religious Education—Rev. John L. Ernst, Ph. D.

Home Missions—Expires 1939, Rev. O. Laubengayer and Mr. A. Eisen.

Pension and Relief—Mr. W. C. Westphal, expires 1935, St. Marks, Detroit; Rev. C. Hanneberg, expires 1937; Rev. Christian Howe, expires 1939, Chairman.

Foreign Missions—Rev. Edwin Mayer, expires 1935; Rev. W. J. Witt, expires 1935; Rev. Waldemar Goffeney, expires 1937.

District Judiciary—Rev. C. Hanneberg, Rev. E. J. Soell, Rev. Wm. Howe, Edward Miller, Michigan City, George Streng, St. Matthews, Detroit.

Insurance—Rev. L. Kleber.

Board of Examiners—Revs. Theo Schmale, F. R. Schreiber, F. Mayer, Ph. D.

Delegates to General Conference—Pastors: Schreiber, Schmale, Ernst, Soell, Dr. Mayer. Alternates: Mayer, Spathelf.

Laymen: Wm. Hacker, George Bartling, Charles Gruel, T. Koerner, F. Bechtold, Chas. Tonn. Alternates: F. Bahler, O. Jud, Henry Moehl, Gust. Hartmann, H. F. Lusty.

Orphan's Home Board—Rev. W. Howe.

Deaconess Hospital Board—Rev. E. Brenion.

Women's Union—Rev. A. A. Schoen.

Brotherhood—Rev. A. G. Frohne.

Victor P. Frohne, District Secretary.

Approved:

Jacob Wulfmann, District President.